

Prepared by: EWH  
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RABB

**RABB, MAXWELL M.**

**OH-309**

**23 pgs. w/Index**

**PRCQ**

Member, Eisenhower's election campaign staff, 1952; President's Associate Counsel, 1953; Secretary to the Cabinet, 1953-58.

**DESCRIPTION:** This OH deals primarily with Rabb's observations about Gen. Lucius D. Clay, Sr. Analysis of Clay's character; anecdote concerning Eisenhower and political leadership; Clay as president of Continental Can (incl. attitude toward labor, contract negotiations, flexibility of mind); Clay's role in the 1952 convention; [Richard M.] Nixon (incl. Rabb's role in the selection of Nixon, why Nixon was selected, Rabb's work during the campaign); Cabinet selections (incl. Rabb's job, the influence of Clay and [Herbert] Brownell); Eisenhower as the man in charge (incl. attitude toward power in early stages of administration, as a listener, ability to delegate duties and responsibilities); Eisenhower's relationships with Clay, Gen. [Alfred M.] Gruenther, and Gen. [Walter Bedell] Beedle Smith (incl. contrasts and comparisons of their natures and roles, anecdote concerning Smith, dedication to Eisenhower); Clay's selection to chair committee to consider building interstate highways; Clay's access to Eisenhower.

**NAME INDEX.**

[Columbia University Oral History Project, interview by Jean Smith, May 4, 1971]