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LUTER

LUTER, JOHN

OH-158

81 pp. w/Index

PRCQ

Associate Editor, *Newsweek*, 1958-61; interviewer for Columbia University Oral History Project.

DESCRIPTION: Incident from September to October 1960 in New York; serving as President of the Overseas Press Club; professional background; working as editor for *Newsweek* in 1960; function of the press club; his desire to make it a professional organization; speakers invited to talk and asked questions from the floor; Fidel Castro and John F. Kennedy had been speakers; Nikita Khrushchev invited to speak at the Overseas Press Club following the U-2 incident and aborted summit conference; editors of many newspapers editors regarding the invitation to Khrushchev; role of State Department; advice from State Department to play down Khrushchev's visit; difficulties in standing by the invitation; Andrew Berding; Emanuel Celler; Luter reads through abusive letters, telegrams and phone calls received relating to the incident; the incident illustrates the temper of the times.

NAME INDEX.

[Columbia University Oral History Project, self-interview by John Luter, December 21, 1970]