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JONES

JONES, ROGER W.

(OH-497)

70 pages

OPEN

Budget Bureau Official, 1953-59; Chairman of the Civil Service Commission, 1959-61.

DESCRIPTION: Career public servant, entering government service in 1933 with the Central Statistical Board; remained with Budget Bureau (except for war years) until appointed chairman of Civil Service Commission in 1959 by Eisenhower; the transition from Truman administration to Eisenhower administration: Truman's preparations for orderly transition from one administration to another, the "Ikelopedia," the appointment by Eisenhower of Joseph M. Dodge as incoming budget director, Cabinet briefings, Jones' role, Secretary Weeks (Dept. of Commerce) and the St. Lawrence Seaway project; Eisenhower's legislative messages in year following inauguration; Truman and legislative programs; questions of loyalty (incoming administration vs. career force from Roosevelt days) and Republican patronage; disruption in departmental continuity (Douglas McKay and Dept. of Interior); Dodge's insistence on retention of career assistant directors; the question of senior career jobs in the Budget Bureau and the resulting Civil Service Commission's study; political appointments vs. career service positions; the Fortune (Nov., 1953) article on Jones and career service; the implementation of Schedule C by executive order and implications thereof; Jones' assessment of Sherman Adams' nature and their working relationship; as President's role in handling legislation; contacts with Eisenhower on legislative affairs; Bernard Shanley (Special Council to President Eisenhower, 1953-55); appointment to Civil Service Commission as Chairman (1959-61); implementation of 1958 Government Employees Training Act; Eisenhower's interest in early plans for a civilian staff college; different positions taken by Jones and Lyons on major changes in Civil Service; Eisenhower's interest in employment of blacks, women, and other minority groups; Mamie's influence in area of women's employment; Eisenhower's concern for civil rights: government and military services; Eisenhower's interest in recognition of women in Civil Service jobs; the process of preparing packets on enrolled bills with agency comments and submitting analyses and recommendations to President; Eisenhower's reliance on Budget Bureau memoranda on bills; Eisenhower's attitude toward legislation; the "consent calendar"; Eisenhower's attitude on process and organization; Cabinet papers; Jones' relationship with Cabinet after appointment to Civil Service Commission; Jones' move from assistant director for legislative reference to assistant director to Stans (Maurice H., Director of Budget of Bureau, 1958-61) and subsequent job responsibilities; the Director's review of budgetary demands and the appeal process; Jones' perception of Eisenhower's style of administration; Eisenhower's sensitivity in dealing with people; Eisenhower's attitude on separation of powers; Jones' opinions of Bernie Shanley (Bernard M.), Gerry Morgan (Gerald), Dave Kendall (David), Roemer McPhee (Henry), and Andy Goodpaster (Andrew J.), all staff members in White House; relationship with individuals in Eisenhower and Truman administrations; general comments on Jerry Persons (Wilton B.), Jack Martin, Bryce N. Harlow, Max Rabb (Maxwell M.); internal communication in the White House ("Staff Notes"-Albert Toner); Jones' comments on Bill Hopkins

(William J., member of white house Civil Service Staff, 1931-710; the White house staff competence under Eisenhower as compared to the Truman staff, the Nixon staff, under Eisenhower as compared to the Truman staff, the Nixon staff, and the Johnson staff; Jones' opinion of Eisenhower as a chief executive, as a politician, and as a leader of men; Eisenhower's strengths and weaknesses; Truman and Eisenhower as constitutionalists; Eisenhower's willingness to be "educated" in situations unfamiliar to him; Eisenhower as a judge of men.

[Dwight D. Eisenhower Library Oral History, interview by Dr. Thomas Soapes, November 8, 1976]