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BUTZ

BUTZ, EARL L. (OH-95) 52 pages PRCQ (Columbia)

Assistant Secretary of Agriculture, 1954-57.

DESCRIPTION: Interview #1. Personal background. Comments re Ezra Taft Benson and his relationship with Eisenhower; the impact of technology upon American agriculture; Nixon and his understanding of the farm problem; the rural Development Program; the disposition of surplus commodities; the Department of Agriculture's relationship with the State Department, Congress, the White House and the major farm groups; James Patton and the National Farmers Organization; the accuracy of the estimates of the supply of agricultural products; U.S. contact with foreign agriculture through organization such as the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) in Rome dollar sales as compared to concession sales of agricultural produce abroad; price supports for soybeans; the policy of the Eisenhower administration toward agricultural research; the influence of freight rates upon relations between the Department of Commerce and the Department of Agriculture; the State Department's reaction to the transfer of administrative jurisdiction over the attaches to the Department of Agriculture; the conversion of lands producing surplus crops to crops that were not in surplus; Sherman Adams; Eisenhower and his image.

[Columbia University Oral history Project, interview by Ed Edwin, 1968]