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THAYER

THAYER, ROBERT H. (OH-243) 45 pages PRCQ (M)

Assistant to the U.S. Ambassador to France, 1951-54; staff member, Operations Coordinating Board, 1954-55; U.S. Minister to Rumania, 1955-58; Assistant Secretary of State for Educational and Cultural Affairs, 1958-61.

Interview #1. Anecdotes about DDE at SHAPE. Work as Assistant Secretary for Educational and Cultural Affairs: presenting information to the Cabinet; difficulties of his job; need to convince people of importance of cultural diplomacy. Use of cameras in balloons to take pictures over Russia. Work as assistant to the U.S. Ambassador to France: EDC; possible aid to Indochina; David Bruce, and Jimmy Dunn. Work on OCB. Service as Minister to Rumania: Suez crisis; Hungarian revolt; forming U.S. policy towards communist Rumania; his appointment. Impressions of John Foster Dulles: Dulles and Harold Stassen; Dulles and DDE; Dulles' feelings towards communism; Aswan Dam decision; Dulles' moralism; Dulles and Joseph McCarthy.

[Columbia Oral History Project Interview by John Luter, 1972]