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NORSTAD

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52 pages

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Deputy Chief of Staff, Plans and Operations, U.S. Air Force, Acting Vice Chief of Staff, Air Forces, 1950; Commander in Chief, U.S. and Allied Air Forces in Central Europe, 1951; Air Deputy, SHAPE, 1953-56; Supreme Allied Commander, Europe, SHAPE, 1956-63.

DESCRIPTION: Interview #1. First meeting with DDE: organizing SHAEF; General Henry H. Arnold. As Chief of Plans and Operations under DDE: working with DDE; DDE's behaviors and mannerisms. NATO: discussing with DDE his decision to accept the SHAPE assignment; Bob Wood; defining the nature and scope of SHAPE; General Gruenther. Comments re: character and personality traits of DDE; DDE as leader and organizer. DDE and NATO: strategy for dealing with other countries; assessment as commander; DDE's spirit. Serving at SHAPE under DDE: NATO tensions during the Suez crisis; separatism within NATO; U-2 crisis; working relationship with DDE; Dr. Howard Snyder. DDE and Dulles: relationship; views on foreign policy. Comments re DDE: flexibility; golf; fishing; as storyteller. NATO and the "New Look" defense policy. Assessment of de Gaulle and Adenauer. Comments re the potential for Soviet aggression against Western Europe. Relationship to Kennedy administration when Supreme Commander of NATO.

[Eisenhower Library Oral History Project, interview by Thomas Soapes, 1976]