

Processed by: HLP
Date: 8/26/88

ASTIN

ASTIN, ALLEN V. (OH-49) 58 pages PRCQ

Scientist, employee, National Bureau of Standards, 1932-1969; director, National Bureau of Standards, 1952-69; director emeritus, National Bureau of Standards, 1969-.

DESCRIPTION: Personal background; radio telemetry techniques; World War II; Lyman L. Briggs, Director of Bureau; proximity fuses; ordnance program; Dr. Condon; Astin's appointment as director of Bureau; problem re battery additive ADX2; Jess Ritchie; Secretary of Commerce Sinclair Weeks; Senate Small Business Committee; Astin's forced resignation, resulting protests, and reinstatement; Dr. Marvyn Kelly and Committee on Long Range Evaluation of the Bureau; transfer of ordnance work to Pentagon; radio standards laboratory in Boulder, Colorado; World War II—toss bombing technique; planning new headquarters and laboratories for the Bureau and the resulting move; James Worthy; Walter Williams; Admiral Strauss; interdepartmental committee on scientific research and development; James Killian; George Kistiakowsky; Federal Council for Science and Technology; future work of the Bureau; National Standard Reference Data System; computers; fire research; assistance to space program; measurement of rocket thrust; Central Radio Propagation Laboratory; telecommunications industry; metric system; changes in the Bureau during the Eisenhower Administration; agencies similar to the Bureau in other countries. A name index is located at the end of the transcript.

[Columbia Oral History Project interview by Paul L. Hopper, 1967]