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FRANCIS

FRANCIS, CLARENCE (OH-23) 38 pages PRCQ (Columbia)

Special consultant to the President and Chairman, Interagency Committee on Agricultural Surplus Disposal, 1954-60.

DESCRIPTION: Interview #1. Personal background. Comments re Francis' work with food industry codes; his investigation of wasteful practices in the Navy; contacts with Department heads through his work on the Business Advisory Council; the development of the inter-Agency Division for the Disposition of Agricultural Surpluses; comments re the contracts made with other countries to dispose of surpluses; his evaluation of Europe's problems after serving as the American representative on the European Productivity Agency; his relationship with Eisenhower; additional comments re the Business Advisory Council; the primary motive for disposing of agricultural surpluses; additional comments re the five year contract with India and the idea of "self help"; origin of the slogan "Food for Peace"; the involvement of farm organizations in the formation of PL 480; comments re the cause of the surpluses; his involvement in attempting to find a solution to the surplus problem, President Eisenhower's attitude toward the surpluses; Francis' opinion of Eisenhower and Sherman Adams, Eisenhower's participation in the 1960 campaign; the effect of Eisenhower's illness upon the functioning of the government.

[Columbia University Oral History Project, interview by Ed Edwin, 1967]