Background for Du Val Interview

Dr. Du Val was Assistant Secretary for Health in HEW, 1971-73.

He served under two Secretaries of HEW:
  1971 - October, 1972        Elliot Richardson
  From November, 1972         Caspar Weinberger

House RMP Oversight Hearings held May 8, 1973

Attachments:

American Men and Women of Science biographical sketch of Du Val

Letter of April 10, 1991 from Du Val to Lindberg (with pertinent background information)
This is Dr. Donald Lindberg, Director of the National Library of Medicine in Bethesda, Maryland. The interview that I am about to conduct is one of a series of interviews designed to record and document the history of Regional Medical Programs. With me in the NLM studio today, July 23, 1991, is Dr. Merlin K. Du Val.
QUESTIONS FOR DR. DU VAL

1. Dr. Du Val, can you tell us about your own involvement with Regional Medical Programs (RMPs)?

2. What can you tell us about the intellectual and political origins of the RMP program? How and why did the program as it emerged differ from the recommendations in the DeBakey report?

3. What do you think were the major accomplishments of RMPs? What specific aspect were you personally most pleased with?

4. Why were RMPs transferred from NIH to HSMHA in 1968?

5. You were Assistant Secretary for Health in HEW during the crucial period when the elimination of RMPs was proposed by the Nixon Administration. What can you tell us about why and how RMPs were terminated?

6. How did RMPs relate to other programs designed to integrate health care activities, such as Comprehensive Health Planning?

7. What can we learn from the RMP experience?

8. Is there any other point that you would like to make concerning RMPs?