

The original documents are located in Box 44, folder “1975/05/01 - Morton Swearing In” of the James M. Cannon Files at the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library.

Copyright Notice

The copyright law of the United States (Title 17, United States Code) governs the making of photocopies or other reproductions of copyrighted material. Gerald Ford donated to the United States of America his copyrights in all of his unpublished writings in National Archives collections. Works prepared by U.S. Government employees as part of their official duties are in the public domain. The copyrights to materials written by other individuals or organizations are presumed to remain with them. If you think any of the information displayed in the PDF is subject to a valid copyright claim, please contact the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library.

12 Noon - Morton Swearing - IN
Department of Commerce

Thursday, May 1, 1975

Morton

Reed 'Will Test Role' In New Interior Setup
By Phil Gailey
(Condensed from the Miami Herald)

Assistant Secretary of Interior Nathaniel P. Reed says he plans to stay in his position at least long enough to see what kind of "chemistry" develops between him and new Interior Secretary Hathaway.

Meanwhile, Reed said he has been asked by Vice President Rockefeller and former Interior Secretary Rogers Morton to develop political "opportunities" for the 1976 elections on conservation and environmental issues. With Watergate and Vietnam behind the nation, Reed said he hopes the administration will focus more of its attention on domestic issues. For the past two years, he said, the Interior Department has been little more than a "housekeeping operation." Things ground to a halt at the height of Watergate, Reed explained, and have not cranked up since, primarily because President Ford involved former Interior Secretary Morton heavily in energy matters.

Reed said he misses "the methodical, hard-nosed decision-making processes of the Nixon Administration. At least new ideas were surfacing frequently and we were always being pushed and shoved by Ehrlichman, who wanted to know what we were doing and how much it was going to cost." During the Ford Administration, he added "innovations, changes and new programs have been on the backburners." -- (4/26/75)

U.S. Heroin Tactics Failure, Memo Charges
By Harry Kelly
(Condensed from the Chicago Tribune)

For two years the U.S. effort to stem the flow of narcotics from abroad has been a failure which has misled Congress and the American public, according to a secret Customs Service memorandum in the hands of Senate investigators.

The April memo written by Assistant Customs Commissioner Robert F. Gaber attacking a statement published April 15 by DEA administrator John Bartels Jr. who contended DEA's strategies -- including the Turkish opium ban -- "have been extremely successful in coping with the worldwide heroin problem."

But Gaber charged that "the Congress, narcotics enforcement agencies within the United States, and the American people have been misled, and are continuing to be misled, by articles

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

CEREMONY TO SWEAR IN ROGERS C. B. MORTON
AS SECRETARY OF COMMERCE

Thursday - May 1, 1975
Departure: 12:10 p.m.

From: Terry O'Donnell

TOD

BACKGROUND

The ceremony to swear in Commerce Secretary-Designate Rogers C. B. Morton will be held in the Auditorium of the Commerce Department. In addition to 500 Commerce Department employees, approximately 125 to 150 special guests have been invited to attend. Special guests include Members of Congress, members of the Cabinet, senior members of the White House staff, and close friends. Commerce Secretary-Designate Morton has asked that former Secretary Fred Dent serve as Master of Ceremonies. Justice Powell will administer the oath.

You nominated Rogers C. B. Morton to be Secretary of Commerce on April 7, 1975 and he was confirmed by the Senate on April 25, 1975. He has served as Secretary of Interior since January 29, 1971. Additional background information on Secretary Morton is attached at TAB A.

Secretary Morton will host a brief reception, following the Swearing-in for 125 guests, in his new office on the 5th Floor of the Commerce Department.

You will deliver remarks immediately prior to the administration of the oath. Following the ceremony, you will attend the reception in the Secretary's office.

SEQUENCE

12:10 p.m.

Board motorcade on South Grounds and depart en route Commerce Department.

12:13 p.m.

Arrive Commerce Department where you are met by Secretary-Designate Rogers C. B. Morton.

PRESS POOL COVERAGE
CLOSED ARRIVAL

2.

12:15 p. m.

Escorted by Secretary-Designate Morton, proceed onto Commerce Department Auditorium stage and take your seat.

OPEN PRESS COVERAGE

ATTENDANCE: 600

12:17 p. m.

Welcoming remarks, acknowledgements and introduction of you by Ambassador Frederick Dent.

12:20 p. m.

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS.

FULL PRESS COVERAGE

12:25 p. m.

Remarks conclude. You ask Justice Powell to administer the oath, then join Secretary-Designate Morton, Mrs. Morton, and Justice Powell at the stand-up microphone for the Swearing-In. Secretary Morton will be on your right, then Mrs. Morton, then Justice Powell.

12:27 p. m.

Swearing-In Ceremony.

12:30 p. m.

Swearing-In Ceremony concludes. You return to your seat.

12:31 p. m.

Ambassador Dent introduces Secretary Morton.

12:32 p. m.

Remarks by Secretary Morton.

12:36 p. m.

Ambassador Dent thanks you, the Secretary, and the guests and concludes the program.

12:37 p. m.

Escorted by Secretary Morton, depart stage and greet Congressional Members and other special guests as you depart the auditorium en route the Secretary's office for small informal reception.

3.

12:45 p.m.

You depart Secretary's reception en route motorcade, board, and depart en route the White House.

12:50 p.m.

Arrive South Grounds.

#

Our intensive effort against cancer, sustained by the constant dedication and determination of scientists, physicians, public officials and private citizens, continues to provide hope and assistance to ever-increasing numbers of Americans.

The National Cancer Act of 1971 was a landmark piece of legislation which authorized new Federal support for cancer research. The amendments of 1974 have added new emphasis to our National Cancer Program, especially in the dissemination of the latest scientific findings from the research laboratory and clinic to practicing physicians, cancer patients, and those in particular jeopardy of cancer.

Despite this progress, the conquest of cancer will not be easy or quick. Cancer statistics remain depressing. An estimated 665,000 new cases will be diagnosed in 1975. Although we shall ultimately achieve victory over these killer diseases, it requires our unwavering support of cancer research and control.

As a means of giving continued emphasis to the cancer problem, the Congress, by a joint resolution of March 28, 1938 (52 Stat. 148, 36 U.S.C. 150), requested the President to issue annually a proclamation setting aside the month of April as Cancer Control Month.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, GERALD R. FORD, President of the United States of America, do hereby proclaim the month of April 1975 as Cancer Control Month, and I invite the Governors of the States and the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, and the appropriate officials of all other areas under the United States flag, to issue similar proclamations.

To give renewed emphasis to this serious problem, and to encourage the determination of the American people to meet it, I also ask the medical and health professions, the communications media, and all other interested persons and groups to unite in public reaffirmation of our Nation's abiding commitment to control cancer.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this 26th day of March, in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred seventy-five, and of the Independence of the United States of America the one hundred ninety-ninth.

GERALD R. FORD

[Filed with the Office of the Federal Register, 11:35 a.m.,
March 27, 1975]

NOTE: The President signed the proclamation at a ceremony in the Cabinet Room at the White House. He then presented the American Cancer Society's Courage Award to West Point Cadet Robert E. Johnson, captain of the Army football team.

The President is today announcing his intention to nominate Rogers C. B. Morton to become Secretary of Commerce to replace Fred Dent, who was sworn in yesterday as the Special Trade Representative.

Secretary Morton has been Secretary of the Interior since January 29, 1971. As you know, he also served four terms in the House of Representatives as a Member of Congress.

As Secretary of the Interior, Secretary Morton has carried heavy responsibilities in the energy field, and since October 11, 1974, has served as Chairman of the Energy Resources Council. It is the President's intention that Secretary Morton will continue as Chairman of the Energy Resources Council in his new role as Secretary of Commerce to see the President's energy program through the Congress.

The President concluded that Secretary Morton could make a valuable contribution to this effort as Secretary of Commerce. He has charged Secretary Morton with the responsibility for mobilizing American industry and the business community to expand resource development and conservation efforts in meeting the energy challenges which the Nation faces in the years ahead. On countless occasions the American enterprise system has provided strength and leadership in dealing with problems confronting the Nation. The energy problem is an important challenge, and as Secretary of Commerce, Secretary Morton can galvanize the resources of the industrial community toward achieving solutions.

The President has made a preliminary selection of a candidate to become Secretary of the Interior. The individual is now undergoing routine clearances and we will make an announcement concerning his nomination once those clearances are completed.

NOTE: For a release on the nomination of Secretary Morton, see the following item.

Secretary of Commerce

*Announcement of Intention To Nominate
Rogers C. B. Morton. March 27, 1975*

The President today announced his intention to nominate Rogers C. B. Morton, of Easton, Md., to be Secretary of Commerce. He will succeed Frederick B. Dent, who resigned effective March 26, 1975.

January 29, 1971. As Secretary of the Interior, Secretary Morton has served as Chairman of the Energy Resources Council since October 11, 1974.

Prior to assuming his Cabinet position, Secretary Morton was Chairman of the Republican National Committee, serving from April 1969. He was elected to the 88th Congress from Maryland's First District in 1962 and was subsequently elected to the 89th through 92d Congresses.

While serving in the Congress, Secretary Morton was a member of the Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs (1963-68), the Committee on Merchant Marine and Fisheries (1963-68), the Select Committee on Small Business (1967-68) and from 1969 until he became Secretary of the Interior, he was a member of the Committee on Ways and Means.

Prior to his election to Congress, Secretary Morton was with Ballard and Ballard Co. from 1939 to 1951, serving as president from 1947 to 1951, and was vice president (1951-53) and a director (1953-71) of the Pillsbury Co. after the two firms merged.

Secretary Morton was born September 19, 1914, in Louisville, Ky., and received a B.A. degree from Yale University in 1937. He served with the U.S. Army from 1943 to 1945, attaining the rank of captain.

Secretary Morton is married to the former Anne Jones, and they have two children.

Interdepartmental Savings Bonds Committee

The President's Memorandum for the Heads of Departments and Agencies on the Reappointment of the Secretary of Agriculture as Chairman of the Committee. March 27, 1975

I have reappointed the Honorable Earl L. Butz, Secretary of Agriculture, as Chairman of the Interdepartmental Savings Bonds Committee. He has made a great contribution to this program for the past two years. The Committee needs his leadership and experience.

The U.S. Savings Bonds program is, as you know, a key tool in the management of the public debt. Today, Americans own a record \$64½ billion worth of these securities, which represent nearly one-fourth of the publicly-held portion and constitute the most stable element in the entire debt structure.

The program has also made a major contribution to the financial security of individuals, providing a safe and convenient method of accumulating reserves for the future.

the Government's policies and programs in these two important ways, it is fitting that employees of the Federal Government take the initiative in the purchase of Savings Bonds through the Payroll Savings Plan and set an example for all Americans in securing their country's future.

The heads of departments and agencies, who make up the Interdepartmental Savings Bonds Committee, have the special responsibility to offer and promote the Payroll Savings Plan to every employee. Under this leadership I am confident the 1975 Federal campaign will attain a new high level of participation.

GERALD R. FORD

Authorization of Appropriations for the Executive Office of the President

The President's Letter to the Speaker of the House and to the President of the Senate. Dated March 26, 1975. Released March 27, 1975

Dear Mr. Speaker: (Dear Mr. President:)

I transmit herewith for the consideration of the Congress draft legislation which would authorize annual appropriations for the White House Office, the Executive Residence, Special Assistance to the President (i.e., assistance provided to the President by the Vice President for Executive branch duties), the Domestic Council, and funds to meet unanticipated needs for personnel and administrative expenses.

The activities provided for in this bill have been funded over the years in annual appropriation acts but these acts have been delayed the past few years because some provisions were not authorized in permanent legislation. This bill was drafted to remedy that situation and I am now requesting that permanent authorizations be enacted to facilitate the appropriation process.

The bill sets upper limits on the pay level of senior staff assistants in each of the offices concerned and is consistent with the present levels approved by the Congress in annual appropriation acts. It also authorizes and sets pay limitations on consultants hired by these offices. In addition, travel and official entertainment expenses, which are appropriated annually, would be made subject to the authorization provided for in this bill.

The bill would not change the requirements for annual appropriations for each of the offices concerned. Budgets will continue to be submitted annually to the Congress and the Appropriations Committees will have an opportunity for complete review during their hearings.