

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

MARCH 19, 1976

Office of the White House Press Secretary

THE WHITE HOUSE

The President today announced his intention to nominate Thomas S. Gates, Jr., of Devon, Pennsylvania, for the rank of Ambassador during his tenure of service as Chief of the United States Liaison Office in Peking, People's Republic of China. He will succeed George Bush who was appointed Director of the Central Intelligence Agency on January 30, 1976. Mr. Gates has been Chairman of the Executive Committee of the Morgan Guaranty Trust Co. since 1969.

Born on April 10, 1906, in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, Mr. Gates received his A. B. degree from the University of Pennsylvania in 1928.

In 1928, Mr. Gates joined the firm of Drexel & Co. as an Associate in Philadelphia, and became a Partner in 1940. He was appointed Under Secretary of the Navy in 1953 and was named Secretary of the Navy in 1957. He became Deputy Secretary of Defense in 1959 and later served as Secretary of Defense during 1959 and 1960.

Mr. Gates joined the Morgan Guaranty Trust Company in New York in 1961. He became Chairman of the Board and Chief Executive Officer in 1965, prior to becoming Chairman of the Executive Committee in 1969.

Mr. Gates is married to the former Millicent A. Brengle and they have three children.

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