



## DEPARTMENT OF STATE

Washington, D.C. 20520

February 27, 1974

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. JOHN O. MARSH  
OFFICE OF THE VICE PRESIDENT

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Subject: Appointment with Vice President  
for Ambassador-designate Fritts

Ambassador-designate Robert E. Fritts has an appointment with the Vice President for 11:30 a.m., Thursday, February the 28th. Ambassador-designate Fritts has just been confirmed by the Senate as our new Ambassador to the Republic of Rwanda. His visit is purely a courtesy call, and no matters of substance should arise.

A biographic sketch of the Ambassador-designate is attached.

A large, stylized handwritten signature in cursive script, reading 'George S. Springsteen'.

George S. Springsteen  
Executive Secretary

Attachment:

Biographic sketch.

ROBERT EUGENE FRITTS

BIOGRAPHIC SKETCH

Mr. Robert E. Fritts (age 39) has been nominated as the United States Ambassador to Rwanda. Mr. Fritts, a career Foreign Service Officer (FSO-3), was serving as Deputy Chief of Mission in Khartoum, Sudan, when nominated as Ambassador. His nomination reflects a new emphasis by the Department of State in providing significant responsibilities to younger officers.

He was born on May 3, 1934, in Chicago, Illinois and received an A. B. degree from the University of Michigan in 1956. He served as an officer in the U.S. Navy from 1956 to 1959. He became an International Relations Officer in the Bureau of European Affairs in 1959. In 1962 Mr. Fritts was assigned as Economic-Commercial Officer, Luxembourg. In 1965 he attended the Foreign Service Institute studying Japanese Language and Area Studies.

In 1965 he was assigned as Economic Officer in Tokyo and in 1968 became an Economic/Commercial Officer, Bureau of East Asian and Pacific Affairs. In 1970 Mr. Fritts became Deputy Director, office of Japanese Affairs, Bureau of East Asian and Pacific Affairs. He was assigned to Jakarta, Indonesia, in 1971 as Economic/Commercial Officer and in 1973 became Deputy Chief of Mission, Khartoum. Mr. Fritts arrived in Khartoum the day of the murder of Ambassador Noel and DCM George Curtis Moore and distinguished himself in the handling of the difficult situation there in the aftermath of the assassinations.

Mr. Fritts is married to the former Audrey Neinhouse, a 1956 graduate of Hope College in Holland, Michigan. They have two children.

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