

The original documents are located in Box 127, folder “Dec. 10, 1973 - Press Release, Robert Hartmann Appointed as Chief of Staff” of the Gerald R. Ford Vice Presidential Papers at the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library.

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OFFICE OF THE VICE PRESIDENT
WASHINGTON, D. C.

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Monday, Dec. 10, 1973

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Vice President Gerald R. Ford announces the appointment of Robert T. Hartmann, until last Friday the Minority Sergeant at Arms of the House of Representatives and his legislative assistant throughout the Nixon Administration, to be Chief of Staff to the Vice President.

The Vice President also announces six senior staff appointments as follows:

Kenneth E. BeLieu, retired last June as Under Secretary of the Army, as Consultant for Legislative Affairs.

William E. Casselman II, resigning as General Counsel of the General Services Administration, to be Legal Counsel to the Vice President.

John M. Dunn, Major General, United States Army, as Assistant for Administration and senior military aide.

Miss Mildred Leonard, his executive secretary for 22 years, to be Personal Assistant to the Vice President.

Paul A. Miltich, his press secretary since 1966, to be Press Secretary to the Vice President.

Walter L. Mote, veteran Senate aide, to continue as Assistant to the President of the Senate. A similar staff position for liaison with the House of Representatives is under consideration.

Other initial staff assignments include:

~~W. Dewey Clower, formerly a Staff Assistant to the President, joining the Vice President's staff as Deputy Assistant for Administration.~~

Commander Howard J. Kerr, United States Navy, and Lieutenant Colonel Americo A. Sardo, United States Marine Corps, detailed as Military Aides to the Vice President.

(more)

Miss Dorothy Hessler, a member of Mr. Ford's House staff since 1967, will be Personal Secretary to the Vice President. Mrs. James W. Howe will be Assistant to Mrs. Ford.

Gordon E. Vander Till, Mr. Ford's District Assistant in Grand Rapids, will be in charge of the interim Congressional Offices for the 5th District of Michigan which are functioning to represent the interests of the Vice President's former Congressional District until his successor is elected and takes office. The Michigan 5th District Office is located in the Federal Building, 1110 Michigan Avenue, N.W., Grand Rapids 49502. The new Washington office will be in Room 1118 Longworth House Office Building and will retain the same telephone number (Area 202) 225-3831.

Hartmann, 56, the newly named Chief of Staff to the Vice President, has been serving unofficially in that capacity since President Nixon's announcement on October 12. Prior to his election as Minority Sergeant at Arms by the 91st Congress, he was on the professional staff of the House Republican Conference headed by the Honorable Melvin R. Laird. He accompanied the late House Majority Leader, Hale Boggs, and Minority Leader Ford, to the People's Republic of China last year and served as Assistant to the Permanent Chairman of the 1968 and 1972 Republican National Conventions.

During a 25-year career as a newspaperman and foreign correspondent, Hartmann was Washington Bureau Chief for the Los Angeles Times in the Eisenhower and Kennedy Administrations and Information chief for North America for the Food and Agriculture Organization. A 1938 graduate of Stanford University, he served in the Pacific during World War II and is a retired Captain in the United States Naval Reserve. He married the former Roberta Sankey in 1943.

Biographical data for the six senior staff appointments will be available from the Press Secretary.

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