

AUGUST 23, 1974

Office of the White House Press Secretary

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NOTICE TO THE PRESS

The President announced today that Paul A. Theis is joining the White House staff as Executive Editor.

Mr. Theis, who has been Public Relations Director for the National Congressional Committee for the past 17 years, will report to the President through Counsellor Robert T. Hartmann.

In his new role, Mr. Theis will be responsible for the preliminary drafting and content coordination of President Ford's speeches, public statements, messages, and other informal documents which bear the President's signature.

President Ford also announced today that he has asked David R. Gergen, who was responsible to President Nixon through his Chief of Staff for some of the duties that Mr. Theis is assuming, to remain on the White House staff as a Special Assistant to the President. The President expressed appreciation for the valuable assistance which Mr. Gergen has already rendered to him as Vice President and during the transition period.

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